

DLIR VOLUNTEER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (VIP)

THE DLIR VOLUNTEER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (VIP) is a Hawaii Department of Labor (DLIR) initiative designed to stimulate job growth in Hawaii. Governor Linda Lingle developed this innovative project in response to Hawaii's growing job loss. The initiative allows job seekers receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits to gain workforce training. Upon successful completion of training, claimants receive certification of job skills acquired and consideration for employment. The opportunity to train through *VIP* is limited to a maximum of 32 hours per week for up to 8 weeks.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

Employers

- Hawaii employers

Claimants

- Hawaii UI Claimants (recently unemployed)
- Claimants cannot intern in DLIR recognized apprenticeship trades

HOW DO EMPLOYERS BENEFIT?

- Pre-screen qualified individuals
- Ideal for small, new and expanding businesses
- Volunteer limited medical coverage provided by DLIR (reasonable medical and hospital bills)
- Trainees at discretion of employers
- Available for for-profit and non-profit businesses

HOW DO CLAIMANTS BENEFIT?

- Get a "foot in the door"
- Participants receive a certificate of completion
- Demonstration of claimants' skills and talents
- Job-specific training

Eligible claimants who are welfare recipients (SEE participant) may also qualify for additional support to defray expenses such as child care and transportation.

For more information regarding the innovative *VIP* program, please visit www.hawaii.gov/labor or email inquiries to ryan.k.markham@hawaii.gov. *VIP* assistants are available Monday through Friday, 7:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.